The Barber Papers

CUBA

INITIATING AUTHORITY:

CUBAN GOVERNMENT

Date Range of Correspondence: 12/3/1914 - 8/9/1915

Number of Documents: 68

Art Work: Drawings of obverse and reverse of 20 Pesos gold coin; drawing of obverse and reverse of 5 Pesos gold coin; drawings of reverse of 5 Centavos coin and silver Peso coin; impressions of the actual adopted dies on cards.

Significance: A great deal of important background as well as ongoing interchange between Barber and the Cuban officials making changes in the coin designs. We probably have a more detailed view of Barber's operations from the Cuban correspondence than from any other single source.

CUBA

12/3/1914 Letter to Barber from Conant, introducing himself and stating that he was authorized by the Cuban government to make inquiries re designs and dies. Roberts suggested he contact Barber, who could handle the whole project. (1 Page) CF #1

12/4/14 Letter from Barber gives his (and the Mint's) range of experience, and what they can do; suggests a meeting. (2 Pages) CF #2

12/8/14 Telegram from Conant requesting meeting; letter to Barber confirming meeting. (2 Pages) CF #3

12/10/14 Letter from Barber to Conant giving a detailed outline of the process of designing and making dies and striking coins. (3 Pages) CF #4

12/11/14 Letter from Conant, saying that he is mailing Barber's specifications and estimate of costs. Can Mint coin $1,000,000 Gold and the same amount in silver per month. What is the Mint's capacity? (1 Page) CF #5

12/12/14 Matter referred to Superintendent of the Mint. (1 Page) CF #6

12/19/14 Letter from Leo Cancio to Conant, giving backgrounds and telling Conant to tell Barber that his proposition is accepted and the work is ordered. Sketches to be submitted before finalizing the work. (1 Page) CF #7

12/24/14 Letter from Conant to Barber mentioning his instructions, etc. Includes drawings by Montoulieu as design guide; Conant is supplying designs of the Cuban Seal, and will provide a bust of Marti - requests a meeting. (2 Pages) CF #8

12/30/14 Letter from Barber to Conant - Will furnish hubs for any further denominations for $400 per pair - sketch of Peso included. Suggests various changes to improve appearance. (2 Pages) CF #9

1/6/15 Telegram from Conant to Barber - proceed with designs and dies for 4 silver coins. (1 Page) CF #10

1/7/15 Letter from Conant to Barber expanding on his telegram, etc. (1 Page) CF #11

1/11/15 Letter from Conant to Barber - go ahead with hubs for the 2 Nickel coins; Secretary of Finance has approved them - he wants to see samples of all the new coins - government of the U.S. has consented to the issue of the Cuban coinage by the U.S. Mint. Various technical questions. (2 Pages) CF #12

1/12/15 Letter from Conant - Corrections to seal sketch. (1 Page) CF #13

1/15/15 Letter from Barber to Conant - discusses cost of coinage in volume, with details. (1 Page) CF #14

1/19/15 Letter from Conant to Barber - go ahead with the 5 Pesos gold - submit models. Detailed description of seal included.

1/23/15 Letter, Barber to Conant. More on the shield - Barber was right. (1 Page) CF #15

1/27/15 Telegram from Conant to Barber confirming that Barber was right. (1 Page) CF #16

1/30/15 Letter, Barber to Conant, enclosing impressions.

2/1/15 Letter, Conant to Barber - Coming from Havana - need conference - need to know when the different dies will be ready. (1 Page) CF #17

2/5/15 Letter, Barber to Conant confirming a meeting; cardboard impressions of the Colon coin. (1 Page) CF #18

2/6/15 Letter, Conant to Barber - Cardboards received - meeting delayed. (1 Page) CF #19

2/10/15 Invoice to the Mint for 2 photographs. (1 Page) CF #20

2/15/15 Letter from Conant to Barber - Impressions of 20¢, 10¢, and obverse of 5¢ received. Impressions of 5 Pesos gold to Havana. (1 Page) CF #21

2/17/15 Letter from Cancio to Conant - Impressions to be shown to the President. Comments and corrections on Marti bust. (1 Page) CF #22

2/19/15 Cover letter from Conant to Barber - Mr. Montoulieu will try to be at the Mint next week. Main letter (Montoulieu & Conant) approves designs and dies for silver and nickel issues - complete dies. (2 Pages) CF #23

2/23/15 Cover letter from Conant to Barber. Modifications on 5 Pesos gold to be discussed with Montoulieu. Enclosure letter Conant to Montoulieu. (2 Pages) CF #24

1/3/15 Letter to Barber - Conant and Montoulieu approve 5 Pesos with corrections - Cancio cabled authorization to proceed with coinage upon acquisition of bullion. (1 Page) CF #25

5/3/15 Letter from Conant to Barber re to whom to make Barber's bill for master dies and hubs - Banco Nacional de Cuba - to J.T. Monahan, 1 Wall St. Bill is $3,000 for the first seven designs. (1 Page) CF #26

5/9/15 Invoice to Morgan for dies, from J.K. Davison's Sons. Includes 7 dies plus a die portrait head. Total $160. (1 Page) CF #27

3/11/15 Letter plus cover envelope from Cancio to Barber - Received card impressions and plaster cast of model for the gold coin - all approved and very satisfactory. (2 Pages CF #28

4/24/15 Letter to Barber from Merchant via Manahan re $10 and $20 gold coins Barber is working on "understood, according to Conant, that the dies will cost $400 each, the same as for the Five Dollar. Advise if this is correct." (1 Page) CF #29

5/7/15 Letter to Barber from Mountoulier - $10 and $20 edges to read "Condodos y Paratodas." (1 Page) CF #30

5/14/15 Letter to Barber from Merchant via Mahoney re cost of $10 and $20 dies - "Authorized to pay $500.00 each for said dies with their hubs." (1 Page) CF #31

6/1/15 Invoice to Morgan for Barber from J.K. Davison's Sons - work on 5 Cuban dies - cost $66.50. (1 Page) CF #32

6/7/15 Letter from Merchant to Barber - Make hubs and dies for one, two, and four Dollar denominations, cost of each to be $400. (1 Page) CF #33

6/28/15 Letter to Barber from Cancio via Conant - New edge lettering on tens and twenties accepted - complete the dies - size gold planchets acceptable. Work may proceed. Handwritten letter from Cancio on above matters; also cover envelope for above. (3 Pages) CF #34

7/27/15 Note from Barber - agrees to change diameters of 1, 2, and 5 Centavos for $400. (1 Page) CF #35

8/9/15 Letter to Barber from Montoulier - Charge for changes in Nickel coins accepted, prepare dies. (1 Page) CF #36

Undated Technical and legal specifications of Cuban coins in detail. (3 Pages) CF #37

CUBA I INITIATING AUTHORITY: CUBAN GOVERNMENT.

2/3/1914 LETTER TO BARBER FRM CONANT, INTRODUCING HIMSELF AND STATING THAT HE WAS AUTHORIZED BY THE CUBAN GIV'T TO MAKE INQUIRIES RE DESIGNS + DIES. ROBERTS SUGGESTED HE CONTACT BARBER, WHO COULD HANDLE THE WHOLE PROJECT (1 PAGE) CF #1

/4/1914 LETTER FROM BARBER GIVING HIS, + the MINT'S RANGE OF EXPERIENCE, AND WHAT THEY CAN DO; SUGGESTS A MEETING. (2 PAGES) CF #2

/8/1914 TELEGRAM ~~LETTER~~ FROM CONANT REQUESTING MEETING

LETTER TO BARBER CONFIRMING ~~[illegible]~~ MEETING (2 PAGES) CF #3

/10/1914 LETTER FROM BARBER TO CONANT GIVING A DETAILED OUTLINE OF ~~[illegible]~~ THE PROCESS OF DESIGNING + MAKING ~~[illegible]~~ DIES + STRIKING COINS (3 PAGES) CF #4

/11/1914 LETTER FROM CONANT, SAYING THAT HE IS MAILING BARBER'S SPECS + ESTIMATE OF COSTS. CAN MINT COIN $1,000,000 GOLD AND THE SAME AMOUNT IN SILVER ~~[illegible]~~ PER MONTH. WHAT IS MINT'S CAPACITY? (1 PAGE) CF #5

12/12/1914 ← MATTER REFERRED TO SUPERINTENDENT OF THE MINT. (1 PAGE) CF #6

2/19/1914 LETTER FROM LEO CANCIO TO CONANT, GIVING BACKGROUNDS AND ~~[illegible]~~ TELLING CONANT TO TELL BARBER THAT HIS PROPOSITION IS ACCEPTED AND THE WORK IS ORDERED. SKETCHES TO BE SUBMITTED BEFORE FINALIZING THE WORK. (1 PAGE) CF #7

/24/1914 LETTER FROM CONANT TO BARBER MENTIONING HIS INSTRUCTIONS, ETC. INCLUDES ~~[illegible]~~ DRAWINGS BY MONTOULIEU AS A DESIGN GUIDE; CONANT IS SUPPLYING DESIGNS OF THE CUBAN SEAL, AND WILL PROVIDE A BUST OF MARTI - REQUESTS A MEETING (2 PAGES) CF #8

30/1914 LETTER FROM ~~CONANT~~ BARBER TO ~~BARBER~~ CONANT - WILL FURNISH HUBS FOR ANY FURTHER DENOMS FOR $4.00 PER PAIR - SKETCH OF PESO INCLUDED - SUGGESTS VARIOUS changes to improve appearance. (2 PAGES) CF #9

/1915 TELEGRAM FROM CONANT TO BARBER - ~~[illegible]~~ PROCEDE W/ DESIGNS + DIES FOR FOUR ~~[illegible]~~ SILVER COINS. (1 PAGE) CF #10

CUBA #

/7/1915 LETTER FROM CONANT TO BARBER EXPANDING ON HIS TELEGRAM, ETC. (1 PAGE) CF#11

/11/1915 " " " " — GO AHEAD W/ HUBS FOR THE 3 NICKEL COIN; SECRETARY OF FINANCE HAS APPROVED THEM — HE WANTS TO SEE SAMPLES OF ALL THE NEW COINS. GOVT. OF THE U.S. HAS CONSENTED TO THE ISSUE OF THE CUBAN COINAGE BY THE U.S. MINT. VARIOUS TECHNICAL QUESTIONS. (2 PAGES) CF# 12

/12/1915 LETTER FROM CONANT — CORRECTIONS TO SEAL SKETCH (1 PAGE) CF #13

/15/1915 " " BARBER TO CONANT — DISCUSSES COST OF COINING IN VOLUME, WITH DETAILS (1 PAGE) CF #14

/19/1915 LETTER FROM CONANT TO BARBER — GO AHEAD WITH THE 5 PESOS gold — SUBMIT MODELS. DETAILED DESCRIPTION of seal included.

/23/1915 LETTER, BARBER TO CONANT, MORE ON THE SHIELD — BARBER WAS RIGHT. (2 PAGES) CF#15

1/27/1915 TELEGRAM FROM CONANT TO BARBER CONFIRMING THAT BARBER WAS RIGHT (1 PAGE) CF#16

1/30/1915 LETTER, BARBER TO CONANT, INCLOSING IMPRESSIONS

2/1/1915 " , CONANT TO BARBER — COMING FROM HAVANA — NEED CONFERENCE — need to know when the different dies will be ready. (2 PAGES) CF#17

2/5/1915 LETTER, BARBER TO CONANT CONFIRMING A MEETING; CARDBOARD IMPRESSIONS OF THE COLON COIN. (1 PAGE) CF# 18

2/6/1915 LETTER, CONANT TO BARBER — CARDBOARDS RECEIVED — MEETING DELAYED (1 PAGE) CF#19

2/10/1915 INVOICE TO THE MINT FOR 2 PHOTOGRAPHS. (1 PAGE) CF#20

/15/1915 LETTER FROM CONANT TO BARBER — IMPRESSIONS OF 20¢ + 10¢, AND OBVERSE OF 5¢ received. IMPRESSION OF 5 PESOS gold → HAVANA (1 PAGE) CF#21

/17/1915 LETTER FROM CANCIO TO CONANT — IMPRESSIONS TO BE SHOWN TO THE PRESIDENT. COMMENTS + CORRECTIONS ON MARTI BUST. (1 PAGE) CF#22

/9/1915 COVER LETTER FROM CONANT TO BARBER — MR. MINTOULIEU WILL TRY TO BE AT THE MINT NEXT WEEK. MAIN LETTER (MINTOULIEU + CONANT) APPROVES DESIGNS + DIES FOR SILVER + nickel issue — COMPLETE DIES, (2 PAGES) CF# 23

CUBA #3

2/23/1915 COVER LETTER FROM CONANT TO BARBER, MODIFICATIONS ON 5 PESOS GOLD TO BE DISCUSSED WITH MONTOULIEU. ENCLOSURE LETTER CONANT - MONTOULIEU. (2 PAGES) CF #24

1/3/1915 LETTER TO BARBER - Conant & montoulieu approve 5 Pesos w/ CORRECTIONS - CANCIO CABLED authorization to proceed with coinage upon acquisition bullion". (1 PAGE) CF #25

/3/1915 LETTER FROM CONANT TO BARBER RE TO WHOM TO MAKE BARBER'S BILL FOR MASTER DIES & HUBS - BANCO NACIONAL de CUBA - TO J.T. MONAHAN, 1 WALL ST. BILL IS $3,000 FOR THE FIRST SEVEN DESIGNS. (1 PAGE) CF #26

/9/1915 INVOICE TO MORGAN FOR DIES, FROM J.K. DAVISON'S SONS. INCLUDES 7 DIES PLUS A DIE PORTRAIT HEAD TOTAL $160 (1 PAGE) CF #27

/11/1915 LETTER PLUS COVER ENVELOPE FROM CANCIO TO BARBER - RECEIVED CARD IMPRESSIONS AND PLASTER CAST OF MODEL FOR THE GOLD COIN - ALL APPROVED AND VERY SATISFACTORY (2 PAGES) CF #28

/24/1915 LETTER TO BARBER FROM MERCHANT VIA MANAHAN RE $10 & $20 GOLD COINS BARBER IS WORKING ON "UNDERSTOOD, ACCORDING TO CONANT, THAT THE DIES WILL COST $400 EACH, THE SAME AS FOR THE FIVE DOLLAR. ADVISE IF THIS IS CORRECT" (1 PAGE) CF #29

/7/1915 LETTER TO BARBER FROM MONTOULIER - $10 & $20 EDGES TO READ "CONTIDOS Y PARATODOS". (1 PAGE) CF #30

/14/1915 LETTER TO BARBER FROM MERCHANT VIA MAHONEY RE COST OF $10 & $20 DIES - "AUTHORIZED TO PAY $500.00 EACH FOR SAID DIES WITH THEIR HUBS" (1 PAGE) CF #31

/1/1915 INVOICE TO MORGAN FOR BARBER FROM J.K. DAVISON'S SONS - WORK ON 5 CUBAN DIES - COST $66.00 (1 PAGE) CF #32

/7/1915 LETTER FROM MERCHANT TO BARBER - MAKE HUBS & DIES FOR ONE, TWO, AND FOUR DOLLAR DENOMINATIONS, COST OF EACH TO BE $400. (1 PAGE) CF #33

/28/1915 LETTER TO BARBER FROM CANCIO VIA CONANT - NEW EDGE LETTERING ON TENS & TWENTIES ACCEPTED - COMPLETE THE DIES - SIZE GOLD PLANCHETS ACCEPTABLE, WORK MAY PROCEED. DESIGNS FOR $10 & $20, AND PLANCHETS FOR SMALLER GOLD COINS SENT TO BARBER; ALSO HAND WRITTEN LETTER FROM CANCIO ON ABOVE MATTERS; ALSO COVER ENVELOPE FOR NOTE, (3 PAGES) CF #34

/27/1915 NOTE FROM BARBER - AGREES TO CHANGE DIAMETERS OF 1, 2, & 5 CENTAVOS FOR $400 (1 PAGE) CF #35

/1/1915 LETTER TO BARBER FROM MONTOULIER - CHARGE FOR CHANGES IN NICKEL COINS ACCEPTED, PREPARE DIES (1 PAGE) CF #36

CUBA IV

UNDATED TECHNICAL + LEGAL SPECIFICATIONS OF CUBAN COINS IN DETAIL. (2 PAGES) <FR #37

CUBAN COINAGE.

Article 11.

(a) Gold,- pieces of $20, $10, $5, $4, $2, and $1.

(b) Silver,- " " one peso, two-fifths of a peso, one-fifth of a peso, one-tenth of a peso.

(c) Nickel,-pieces of five-hundredth parts of a peso, of two-hundredth parts of a peso and of one-hundredth part of a peso.

Article Vl. Silver coins of one hundred cents shall weigh twenty-six and 7295 ten-thousandth grammes; those of two-fifths of a peso shall weigh ten grammes; those of one-fifth of a peso, five grammes, and those of one-tenth of a peso, two and 500/1000 grammes. Nickel coins of five- one-hundredths of a peso shall weigh five grammes; and those of one and two one-hundredths of a peso, two and one half and three and one half grammes, respectively.

Article Vll. Every coin shall be stamped with its value, weight and fineness, year of coinage, and the inscription "Republica de Cuba", and the gold coins shall bear, besides, the effigy of Mart'i, and on the reverse the escutcheon of the Republic. Silver and nickel coins shall have stamped on the reverse the escutcheon of the Republic and on the obverse a five pointed star.

Gold coins of five, ten and twenty pesos shall be of the same shape, weight and value as the corresponding coins of the

ARTICLE VII. (continued)

United States of America, and those of four, two and one peso shall be proportionate to the above size and weight.

$17\frac{45}{50}$

CUBAN COINAGE.

Silver

10 grams	40 Cents	diameter	~~28~~ 29	~~mm~~	900 fine
5 "	20 "	"	23 14/50	~~mm~~	900 "
2 1/2 "	10 "	"	~~18~~ $17\frac{45}{50}$	~~mm~~	900 "

Nickel

5 grams	5 Cents	diameter	21 10/50	mm
3 1/2 "	2 "	"	19 7/50	mm
2 1/2 "	1 "	"	~~15 36/50~~ $16\frac{36}{50}$	mm

32 LIBERTY STREET
NEW YORK

December third,
Nineteen Fourteen.

My dear sir:-

I have been recently employed by the Government of the Republic of Cuba to aid them in carrying out the coinage measure which became law on October 29th last.

I was in Cuba during the month of November and am authorized by the Cuban Government to make proper inquiries in regard to the designs and dies for the new coins.

I am advised by the Hon. George E. Roberts that you have given some attention to such matters and might be able to make the dies without the intervention of an outside artist. The law itself prescribes most of the essential particulars of the new designs, and I have some photographs and suggestions with me. I shall not be able to make a definite contract without authority from Havana, but would be glad to confer with you if you are interested in the subject. If you are to be in New York next week, would you be kind enough to endeavor to arrange an appointment? If necessary, I may go to Philadelphia, but desired at least to hear from you on the subject first.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant

C. E. Barber, Esq.,
U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

December 4th, 1914.

My dear Sir:-

Your favor of the third instant received this morning, believing time to be a consideration as I understand the government of Cuba desires the coinage as soon as possible I reply to your inquiry at once. Mr. Roberts has correctly informed you regarding the services of any other artist, it would be entirely unnecessary in fact I would rather not be hampered with the services of someone who most probably had had no experience with coinage and the mechanical possibilities of the same.

I may mention that we have made the dies for coinage for almost all the Central and South American countries, besides those for Panama and Philippine, therefore can claim a pretty wide experience in this line. For about forty years we have made the dies for the coinage of the United States and if you are provided as you say with the "essential particulars and photographs" with the act authorizing the coinage with weight, fineness and diameter of the coins it will be very plain sailing and I shall be very happy to confer with you any day that you can make it convenient to call at my office between nine and four, or I will make any appointment for any

No.2

hour more suitable for you.

I have no prospect of being in New York for some time or I would gladly call upon you.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant, Esq.,
32 Liberty Street,
New York, N. Y.

TELEGRAM

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, VICE-PRESIDENT [illegible] NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT [illegible] VICE-PRESIDENT

RECEIVED AT

30P DA 21 COUNT PM KI [illegible]

CHARLES E. CARBER ESQ [illegible]

UNITED STATES [illegible]

[illegible] PHILADELPHIA PA

COULD I MEET YOU TOMORROW [illegible] RECEIVER STRATEGY [illegible]

THREE OCLOCK TRAIN ABOUT FIVE FIFTEEN PLEASE ANSWER MY EXPENSE

CHARLES A. CUMMIN

32 LIBERTY STREET
NEW YORK

December eighth,
Nineteen Fourteen.

My dear sir:-

I was pleased to receive your despatch indicating your willingness to meet me tomorrow at 5.15 P. M. at the Bellevue-Stratford. I wished to avoid breaking up the whole day and thought this hour might not inconvenience you.

I suppose there will be no particular difficulty about our mutual identification, but it might be well for each to inquire of the clerk at the desk for the other. I am a man of rather moderate height and wear a derby with a square top.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

December 10th, 1914.

My dear Sir:-

Relative to our interview of yesterday I beg to say that before any coinage can be commenced it will be necessary to have for approval designs made for each coin with the required inscriptions, insignia and emblems displayed in a satisfactory manner.

The weight and fineness being already stated the next question to be decided is the diameter of each coin and the relation in size one coin shall bear to the other, considering always the mechanical requirements for successful coinage. In considering this feature of the coins the volume of metal contained in each should in a measure govern the diameter and thickness, these points being settled the relief of the designs must also enter into the problem of coinage, otherwise the difficulty of coinage is increased and the output decreased.

To produce the working dies after all the above points have been determined and design approved, it is necessary to engrave a matrix of both obverse and reverse of each coin. As many dies are required for stamping a large number of coins, to facilitate the reproduction of the dies and decrease the cost of coinage what is technically called in this country a hub and by the French a "poinçon" is made from the matrix, this hub is

a reproduction in steel of the finished matrix and is the reverse of the matrix which is intaglio, the hub being in relief, with this hub any number of dies can be made quickly and at small expense, as the date of coinage is not on the matrix or hub the hub can be used indefinately and if properly made can be used in any coinage Mint in the world as all Mints use the same methods for making coinage dies. The year of coinage is put on the working dies, therefore unless the designs or inscriptions are changed, the hubs will last a life time and are the property of the government ordering them.

As I understand for the present it is not the intention to have all the thirteen coins made, only some of the denominations, therefore I will furnish an estimate for those most needed.

I will agree to furnish for approval sketches for both obverse and reverse using such material as you are able to supply and after full discussion of all the detail entering into the subject, aiding you in every way to arrive at the best solution of the different questions as they may arise as to diameter and thickness of the coins. I will make the necessary models, matrixes and hubs for the reproduction of the working dies for the following coins.

(B) Silver- two-fifths of a peso, one fifth of a peso, one-tenth of a peso.

(C) Nickel- pieces of five-hundredths parts of a peso, of two hundredths parts of a peso, and of one hundredth part of a peso.

(A) One gold coin of the value of five peso.

Mr. Conant, #3.

The above making seven coins in all, as said before, I will furnish the finished hubs for both obverse and reverse for each of the coins herein named for the sum of three thousand dollars. I will deliver the first pair of hubs for any one of the coins named two months after all detail consisting of design, diameter and everything necessary for the successful execution of the work is agreed upon and fixed.

The remainder of the order will follow closely the delivery of the first pair of hubs.

Yours very truly,

Chas. E. Barber

Charles A. Conant, Esq.,
32 Liberty Street,
New York, N. Y.

9563

32 LIBERTY STREET
NEW YORK

December eleventh,
Nineteen Fourteen.

My dear Mr. Barber:-

I am in receipt of your letter of the tenth inst. enclosing your specifications and estimate for designs for the Cuban coinage. I am mailing it today to the Secretary of Finance for his consideration.

Can you give me a general idea of the capacity of the Mint to turn out the coins after the dies are ready? I had in mind a coinage of about $1,000,000. per month in gold and $1,000,000. per month in silver, divided in the first lot between pieces of 20 cents and 10 cents. The latter, of course, involve much more work than the gold. Could this amount be done without inconvenience?

I would be glad if you would advise me of what you consider the maximum capacity on both gold and silver, under normal conditions of operation, and also whether there would be any difficulty in coining assorted lots of silver of different denominations, up to the amount of $2,000,000. per month.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

December 12th, 1914.

My dear Mr. Conant:-

I have handed your letter making inquiry as to the capacity of the Mint to execute the coinage of Cuba to the Superintendent of the Mint, and he will give you the desired information, which will be official coming from him, I have no doubt the coinage can be furnished in a very short time after the dies are ready.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant, Esq.,
32 Liberty Street,
New York, N. Y.

COPY.

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

Comisión de la Moneda Nacional

Havana, Dec. 19th, 1914.

Charles A. Conant, Esq.,
32 Liberty Street,
New York.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your letters of the 1st, 11th and 14th inst., which owing to a slight illness I was not able to answer before, I beg to state that I have studied with interest every one of the propositions submitted.

After careful consideration, and having consulted with the President about the different points brought up by the artists, I have decided to accept Mr. Barber's proposition, as it seems to me that his familiarity with coinage at large will give best results. Besides, the fact that the law actually limits and determines the motives of the designs to appear in each coin, leaves hardly any room for artistic conceptions.

In connection with Mr. Barber's proposition of three thousand dollars ($3000) for the complete designs of seven coins, you are requested to investigate and submit to me his charges for the remaining designs required by the law.

I am sending you herewith tentative sketches with the legends and designs required by the law which have been prepared by Mr. Montoulieu only as a suggestion of the possible distribution of the inscriptions and insignia as prescribed by the Monetary Law.

You are hereby directed to order the execution of the work in accordance with Mr. Barber's proposition of Dec. 10, 1914. It is to be understood that sketches must be submitted for approval previous to the final execution of the work.

Awaiting your further correspondence, I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) LEOPOLDO CANCIO.

32 LIBERTY STREET
NEW YORK

December twenty-fourth,
Nineteen Fourteen.

My dear sir:

I received to-day a letter from the Secretary of Finance of the Republic of Cuba, stating that he had decided to accept your proposition in regard to the preparation of the seven coins to be first designed and minted for the Republic.

The Minister requests me to order the execution of the work in accordance with your proposition of December tenth, but desires that sketches be submitted for approval previous to its final execution.

As an aid in your work, the Secretary submits the drawings which I enclose, made by Eduardo I. Montoulieu, who is specially attached to the Monetary Commission. These sketches, I understand, are not to preclude further suggestions on your part, but indicate the words and designs which under the law must appear on the coins.

I also enclose herewith a design of the seal of the Republic which is to appear on all of the coins. I have received, also, from Havana, a fine colored plate of this seal which is rather large to mail conveniently, but which I will hand you in person or forward in some way soon. The colored plate does not differ in any essential particular from the embossed seal which is enclosed. I will also bring you the photograph of the bust of Marti

which I showed you on my previous visit.

It is necessary for me to be in Philadelphia on Tuesday next, to deliver an address at the meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Science. It will probably be necessary, in view of some personal matters, for me to leave immediately after the delivery of the address in the morning. I can be in Philadelphia Monday evening, however, and would be glad to have a conference with you at that time. I would prefer not to leave New York until after business hours, but if you preferred to meet me before dinner rather than later, perhaps we could arrange to meet at the Bellevue-Stratford, say at 6.15, upon the arrival of the four o'clock train.

Will you be kind enough to write me, if you receive this letter on Saturday, and if not, to telegraph me as promptly as possible on Monday?

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
United States Mint,
Philadelphis, Pa.

December 30th, 1914.

Dear Sir:-

Regarding the hubs for the Peso and other coins for Cuba not already mentioned in previous correspondence, I would say that I will agree to furnish the hubs for any of the remaining coins including the Peso for four hundred dollars per pair, obverse and reverse of each coin. I am enclosing a sketch of the Peso as it will appear when coined.

In submitting these sketches of the several coins I would say that all detail of the designs will be clearly and distinctly brought out in a way that is hardly possible in pencil drawing as small as these coins require. I wish to call your attention to one or two points in the designs, first, I have shown rays around the stars to convey the idea of light bursting from the star, on the reverse of the silver, which also helps to make a distinction between the subsidiary and minor coins. Next I would suggest that we simply put the letter G. after the weight instead of GMS. as suggested in designs of M. E. Montoulieu, also I would suggest that we have weight on the left hand side and the fineness on the right hand side of each coin to maintain uniformity.

I am sending the design for the five peso gold coin with bust of Marti undraped and also a sketch for the twenty

pese with the bust draped and will ask that the authorities of Cuba decide which they prefer, but I would suggest that they have the same design for all the gold coins, not one with draped bust and another undraped.

Any suggestions that any of you may have to make I would be glad to hear and follow if it will improve the coin.

I beg to suggest that the coins should all have the little knurl around the outer edge as shown in the designs, as some kind of decoration around the coin is positively universal and without such a decoration would leave the coin bare and bald, looking raw and unfinished, to my mind it would not be satisfactory. The idea of a border holding dirt or disease germs is too remote to be considered as it would apply to any part of the design with equal force.

Very truly yours,

Charles A. Conant, Esq.,

32 Liberty Street,

New York City. N.Y.

P.S.

I wish it to be understood that the sketch for the obverse of the gold coin is not to be considered as a portrait, only a suggestion that a bust is to be in that place.

Form 2606

WESTERN UNION CABLEGRAM

THEO. N. VAIL, PRESIDENT

Received at

1424 Columbia Ave., Money transmitted by telegraph. Bell Phone Poplar 2197.

27 P N 16 CUBAN GOVT RELAY

HAVANA JAN 6-1916

BARBER

FEDERAL MINT PHILA (TRY 1625 N 17TH ST)

YOU MAY PROCEED WITH DESIGNS AND DIES FOR FOUR SILVER COINS.

CONANT

529PM

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

Comision de la Moneda Nacional

Havana, Jan. 7th, 1915.

My dear Mr. Barber:-

I cabled you yesterday to proceed with the designs and dies for the four silver coins.

I showed your drawings to the Secretary of Finance promptly upon my arrival yesterday and he was pleased with the effects you had secured for the star and the other devices.

I think the designs for the nickel coins also have his approval, but will advise you definitely about this in a few days. I expect you will be kept busy for some time on the silver coins, which the government is anxious to have ready as soon as possible. In the matter of the gold piece for $5, I will also advise you soon, but desire to have some further conference with the Secretary.

I have not returned your drawings because I presume you had duplicates. If you should need them in order to go on with your work, however, I suggest that you cable me: "Conant, Care [redacted] Hacienda, Havana."

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant

E. E. Barber, Esq.,
Federal Mint,
Philadelphia.

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

Havana, Jan. 11th, 1915.

My dear Sir:-

In further pursuance of the matter of the Cuban coinage, I beg to advise you that you may go ahead with the hubs for the three minor coins of nickel, in accordance with the designs you have submitted. They have the approval of the Secretary of Finance.

The Secretary would like to see samples of all the new coins as soon as any one of them is ready for submission. I suppose such samples in plaster or some other form can be prepared before the steel dies are made.

The Secretary has been advised, through the Secretary of State, that the Government of the United States consents to the issue of the Cuban coinage by the Philadelphia Mint. Can you advise me if the Government of the United States has any regular form of contract for doing this work, and if so, can a copy be sent me here?

Can you also advise me what is the smallest lot of coinage of a single denomination which can be executed economically at one time? Can the dies be changed from day to day, or is it preferable to executed a considerable amount of one denomination without changing? I desire to consult the bank which has obtained the contract in regard to the best manner of getting the new coins in circulation and this

might be a factor in deciding that problem.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant

C. E. Barber, Esq.,

Federal Mint,

Philadelphia, Pa.

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

Comision de la Moneda Nacional.

Havana, January 12th, 1915.

My dear Mr. Barber:-

In my letter of yesterday I neglected to call your attention to a detail of the seal of the Cuban Republic. It has been noted here by the coinage expert that in your drawings you seem to bring the two mountains down to the base line of the picture. These mountains are supposed to symbolize North and South America and to be surrounded by the sea. There should be a line of water, therefore, separating them from the base line of the drawing. If you examine carefully the colored copy of the seal, you will no doubt observe that it is made in this way.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant

C. E. Barber Esq.,

United States Mint,

Philadelphia, Pa.

January 15th, 1915.

Dear Sir:-

Answering your questions in letter of the 11th inst. I am informed that November the 12th or 13th, 1913 an estimate was furnished by the Director of the Mint Mr. George E. Roberts for 100,000 pieces and upwards and from 100,000 down to 25,000 pieces an additional ten per cent would be added, below 25,000 pieces no price was given, therefore you will see that the most economical would be the 100,000 pieces and also preferable, when everyting mechanical in the operation is adjusted, the execution of the coin is a simple matter.

The dies can be changed from day to day but that would certainly add to the cost as it would take time to adjust the dies to the presses which would again retard the out put.

There is no doubt about the capability of the Mint to execute several denominations at the same time, as we have a number of presses, therefore you would not have to wait for any particular denomination as several could be going through at the same time, the only delay would be getting the dies which we intend to furnish as soon as possible.

I am sorry I cannot show you an model as I do not make any complete model only partial models and rely upon the engraving on the steel for the completion of the design.

h.

We will of course follow the drawings closely which have been approved.

We know of no from of contract made with foreign governments for coinage, if the permission has been granted we only await the instructions from the Mint Bureau.

If you have not the estimate furnished by Mr. Roberts for the Cuban Coinage if you apply to the Mint Bureau, Washington D. C. they will send you a copy.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant, Esq.,
c/o Secretaria De Hacienda,
Havana, Cuba.

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

Havana, Jan. 19th, 1915.

My dear Mr. Barber;-

I am authorized by the Secretary of Finance to advise you that you may go ahead with the design for the gold coin of $5.00 upon the same basis as the others,- models to be submitted before making of the dies.

As bearing upon the exact heraldic description of the seal, I enclose a statement in English of what it is intended to represent, which may be helpful to you.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,

U. S. Mint, Philadelphia.

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

Comisión de la Moneda Nacional.

Description of the Cuban National Seal.

(Act of Congress, Jan. 6th, 1906)

The Cuban shield or coat of arms in use has an ogival shape and is divided at two-thirds of its height by a horizontal line, and its lower portion is further divided by a vertical line. The upper field represents a sea, whose sides, right and left, are flanked by land corresponding to North and South, facing each other, between which and closing the stretch or gap from left to right and suspended in the air, extends a golden key with its lever downward, while back of it, corresponding to the West, the solar disc, half sunk in the horizonn spreads its rays over all the sky of the scene. The section or space to the left is banded with five stripes of azure or turquoise blue and white, the uppermost being blue, and inclining from left to right, and the third space or section, depicts a Cuban valley in the centre of which as dominant figure, stands a royal palm tree and behind it two hills. Light clouds complete the landscape. The shield is traversed by a Roman mace, showing at the top and bottom, being crowned above with the ~~Frigian~~ Phrygian or cap of liberty in whose centre is a silver star of five points. Branches of myrtle and laurel, with their tops inclined towards the seal, adorn the right and left sides respectively of the coat of arms.

January 23rd, 1915.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 19th inst. came this morning and caused us some little uneasiness as we found the description of the seal did not coincide with the paper impression of the official seal or the drawing furnished, in this particular namely, "Branches of myrtle and laurel". The paper impression of the seal has laurel and oak, the colored drawing of the seal has the same and in looking at the description of the seal found in the official document you left with us we find the following: "Und rama de encina y otra de laurel". Which we translate to be one branch of oak and another of laurel. Supposing the several examples quoted to be correct we have advanced the work in this direction and feel certain that there is some mistake in the last description of the seal in saying "Myrtle and Laurel". We would like to hear from you immediately as your letter of the 19th causes a halt until we are assured we are right in the question now before us, in every other particular there is no uncertainly.

Very truly yours,

Charles A. Conant,

WESTERN UNION

CABLEGRAM

THEO. N. VAIL, PRESIDENT

Received at

1-22 DA CUBAN GOVERNMENT 15

HAVANA JANY 27TH 1915

BARBER

FEDERAL MINT PHILA

OAK AND LAUREL IS CORRECT TRANSLATION OF SEAL

DE A IT PERITO MONETARIO

1120AM

1365 Ridge Avenue, Lorimer 230
Money Transferred by Telegraph & Cable

January 30th, 1915.

Charles A. Conant, Esq.,

Havana, Cuba.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed please find impressions of the Colon dies that we are preparing for the Coinage of Cuba, we thought you would be pleased to see how the design is going to appear on the coins when finished.

We are advancing the other denominations as fast as we can.

Very truly yours,

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

COMISION DE LA MONEDA NACIONAL

LEOPOLDO CANCIO.
SECRETARIO DE HACIENDA.
ARLES A. CONANT.
PERITO MONETARIO.
UARDO I. MONTOULIEU.
COMISIONADO TECNICO.

Havana, Feb. 1st, 1915.

My dear Mr. Barber:-

I am expecting to leave Havana on the same boat which carries this letter, and shall reach New York late Thursday evening. I shall probably want a full conference with you on Monday or Tuesday following and would be glad if you will have information ready as exact as possible in regard to the dates when the different dies will be ready. I will probably arrange to come over during business hours and would like to meet Mr. Joyce at the same time in regard to the details of the execution of the coinage. I have his letters, of course, which give me good general idea of the capacity of the Mint, but shall desire to go into details as fully as possible and with due consideration to the plans for the purchase of bullion.

The contract for the purchasing of bullion and delivering it to the Mint has been made by the Government with the National Bank of Cuba, which has a representative in New York with whom I shall probably have a conference before seeing you.

I am writing this letter so that you may advise me by mail in New York if it will be agreeable for you and Mr. Joyce to have me call at the Mint at the date suggested. I

should probably prefer to come on Tuesday, February 9, after having had time to confer with the representative of the National Bank of Cuba in New York.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia.

CAC/EAE.

Feb. 5th, 1915.

Charles A. Conant, Esq.,

#32 Liberty Street,

New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Conant:-

Your favor of the 3rd inst. came this morning, I have seen Mr. Joyce and he instructs me to say that he will be in his office Tuesday the 9th inst. I will also be here and meet you and talk over any matters you may suggest.

I am enclosing impressions in cardboard of the Colon coin. January 30th I sent impressions addressed to you in Havana, Cuba, but I see by your letter that they could not reach you before you left on February 3rd.

Very truly yours,

32 LIBERTY STREET
NEW YORK

February sixth,

Nineteen Fifteen.

Dear Mr. Barber:-

I am in receipt of your letter of the fifth inst. enclosing cardboard impressions of the new peso. I will forward these to the Secretary of Finance, and I think they will throw considerable light on the work you are doing.

In the matter of coming to Philadelphia, I find that there is an important lunch here Tuesday which I would like to attend. I will, therefore, postpone my visit to Philadelphia until Wednesday, unless I hear from you to the contrary.

I shall probably arrive at the Mint immediately after the lunch hour.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

NEW SUBJECTS _____

DUPLICATES _____

PHILADELPHIA, February 10. 1915

M United States Mint

To **EARL E. SCHAPPELL & CO.,** Dr.

SUCCESSORS TO HARRISON TRYON

PHOTOGRAPHERS OF MACHINERY AND FURNITURE

1617 SPRING GARDEN ST.

TERMS _____

BOTH 'PHONES

2	Photographing Medalist Photographs Fine Grain 2/10/15 PAID EARL E. SCHAPPELL & CO. Per Thank you	1	00		

32 LIBERTY STREET
NEW YORK

February fifteenth,
Nineteen Fifteen.

My dear Mr. Barber:-

I received your letter of the 12th inst. enclosing impressions of the silver coin of twenty centavos and ten centavos, and the obverse of the nickle coin of five centavos.

I am advised by a letter from Mr. Montoulieu, who will represent the Government of Cuba in connection with the coinage, that he would probably leave Havana the latter part of last week, which would bring him here in a day or two.

I cannot give you positive instructions in regard to the subsidiary and minor coins until after his arrival, but will take action promptly in the matter, as circumstances permit.

I have sent the impression of the gold coin to Havana, and there will probably be a little further delay in regard to that.

I have not yet been advised that the representative of the Banco Nacional in New York has received any instructions to buy silver, but I hope for further light on this subject from Mr. Montoulieu.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
Bureau of the Mint, Philadelphia, Pa.

SECRETARIO DE HACIENDA

Particular

Havana, February 17th, 1915.

Charles A. Conant, Esq.,
32 Liberty Street,
New York.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 11th instant was received this morning. I am taking same with me to the President and also the photograph enclosed of the obverse side of the gold coin showing the profile of Martí.

I wish to make some observations regarding the bust of Martí, which I find faulty. It seems to me that the cheek-bone is much too prominent and the moustache too dense and thick. I agree with you in that the "Adam's apple" is too prominent and the hair requires more detail even if the figure will be considerably reduced for the five-peso coin. It also occurs to me that the year inscription should be closer together; that is, the four figures more compact and not so close to the bust.

After consulting with the President regarding the further details of your letter, I shall reply to same. In the meantime, I ask that you submit to me the design of the bust with the corrections mentioned above.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) LEOPOLDO CANCIO

Secretario de Hacienda.

EAE

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

COMISION DE LA MONEDA NACIONAL

Dr. LEOPOLDO CANCIO.
SECRETARIO DE HACIENDA.
CHARLES A. CONANT.
PERITO MONETARIO.
EDUARDO I. MONTOULIEU.
COMISIONADO TECNICO.

February nineteenth
Nineteen Fifteen.

My dear Mr. Barber:-

I enclose herewith copy of a letter signed by Mr. Montoulieu, expert representative of the Cuban government and by myself, approving the designs for the silver and minor coins of the Republic.

Before taking further action on the design for the gold coin, Mr. Montoulieu will confer with you and we may desire to await further advices from the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Montoulieu will endeavor to call upon you at the mint on Thursday of next week for a general consultation on the process of the work. We have not been advised of any action by the National Bank of Cuba, which has the contract for purchasing the bullion, in regard to such purchases, but hope to obtain further information on the subject before the visit of Mr. Montoulieu.

Yours very sincerely,

Charles A. Conant

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Penn.

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

COMISION DE LA MONEDA NACIONAL

r. LEOPOLDO CANCIO.
SECRETARIO DE HACIENDA.
HARLES A. CONANT.
PERITO MONETARIO.
DUARDO I. MONTOULIEU.
COMISIONADO TECNICO.

February nineteenth
Nineteen Fifteen.

Dear Sir:-

We beg to advise you that under authority from the Secretary of Finance of the Republic of Cuba, we approve the designs and dies which you have prepared for the silver and minor coins of the Republic, in accordance with the impressions submitted to us.

You are authorized to proceed to complete these dies and make the coining dies for the execution of the coinage.

Yours very respectfully,

Charles A. Conant.
E. I. Montoulieu

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Penn.

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

COMISION DE LA MONEDA NACIONAL

DR. LEOPOLDO CANCIO.
SECRETARIO DE HACIENDA.
CHARLES A. CONANT.
PERITO MONETARIO.
EDUARDO I. MONTOULIEU,
COMISIONADO TECNICO.

February twenty-third,
Nineteen Fifteen.

My dear Mr. Barber:-

I found your letter of the 19th inst. on returning to my office this morning after a short absence from town.

You have already been advised in regard to the silver and minor coins by my letter of the 19th. In regard to the gold coin, I have received a letter from the Secretary of Finance, of which I enclose copy herewith. I am enclosing this for you to have under consideration before the visit of Mr. Montoulieu which will take place on Thursday, so far as I am now advised.

I have not yet been advised by the Banco Nacional de Cuba in regard to any measures to be taken for the delivery of bullion.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant.

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Enclosure (1)

32 LIBERTY STREET
NEW YORK

February twenty-fourth,
Nineteen Fifteen.

My dear Mr. Barber:-

I am giving this note to Mr. Eduardo Montoulieu, who has been designated by the Secretary of Finance of the Republic of Cuba to represent the Government of Cuba in the coinage to be executed for the Republic at the Philadelphia mint.

Mr. Montoulieu will consult with you further in regard to the model for the $5 gold piece, which the Secretary of Finance is anxious to have completed as soon as possible.

Will you be kind enough to present Mr. Montoulieu to Mr. Joyce and Mr. Clark, and afford him such facilities as are proper in the fulfillment of his mission?

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant.

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

COMISION DE LA MONEDA NACIONAL

Dr. LEOPOLDO CANCIO.
SECRETARIO DE HACIENDA.
CHARLES A. CONANT.
PERITO MONETARIO.
EDUARDO I. MONTOULIEU.
COMISIONADO TECNICO.

32 Liberty Street, New York City.
March first,
Nineteen Fifteen.

My dear Mr. Barber:-

I received to-day your letter of the 27th ult. in regard to the preparation of the dies for the gold coin of $5, and in regard to the facilities of the Mint for executing the coinage.

In regard to the design for the $5 gold piece, Mr. Montoulieu and I have been authorized to approve the design with such corrections as we think proper. We will take a look at the work tomorrow, and hope to be able to authorize you to proceed at once to make the final dies.

In respect to the execution of duplicate dies, I was advised by Mr. Montoulieu that you do not wish to complete this branch of the work until a definite order has been received from the Government of Cuba for the execution of the coinage at the Mint at Philadelphia. Upon receiving this advice from Mr. Montoulieu, I cabled the situation to the Secretary of Finance, Dr. Leopoldo Cancio, and have received from him the following message:

> "You are hereby authorized proceed with coinage upon acquisition bullion, your cable yesterday submitted to bank, writing mail to-day."

I presume you will accept this as sufficient authority to complete the dies, without being further advised. I have written, however, to the Acting Director of the Mint at Washington, advising him of my receipt of this authority. I have also requested the representative of the Republic at Washington to take the matter up, if necessary, with the Department of State.

A contract has been signed between the Government of the Republic and the Banco Nacional de Cuba, in accordance with the monetary law, under which the bank agrees to purchase the bullion, make the necessary advances of money for the purpose, pay for the bullion, the coinage and other incidental charges, to receive reimbursement after the delivery of the coin to the Government in Havana. The most frequent and direct relations of the Mint at Philadelphia in the matter, therefore, will be with the Banco Nacional de Cuba, whose representative in New York is Mr. J. T. Monohan, the regular manager of the New York branch of the bank at No. 1 Wall Street. It is the intention of Mr. Monohan to call with Mr. Montoulieu and myself at the Philadelphia Mint tomorrow to confer in regard to further details of the operation. If necessary, I will write a letter advising Mr. Joyce of my authority in the matter, and of the function of the Banco Nacional. As I have written to the Acting Director of the Mint at Washington, however, I hope to be able to confer with Mr. Joyce tomorrow, and will defer a formal communication

until after this conference.

Yours very sincerely,

Charles A. Conant.

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,

United States Mint,

Philadelphia.

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

COMISION DE LA MONEDA NACIONAL

. LEOPOLDO CANCIO.
SECRETARIO DE HACIENDA.
ARLES A. CONANT.
PERITO MONETARIO.
UARDO I. MONTOULIEU.
COMISIONADO TECNICO.

32 Liberty Street,
New York City,
March 5, 1915.

My dear Mr. Barber:-

I am in receipt of your letter of the fourth inst. inquiring to whom to make your bill for the master dies and hubs of the new Cuban coinage.

Payment should be made by the Banco Nacional de Cuba. I suggest that you send your bill to Mr. J. T. Monahan, No. 1 Wall Street, New York City, the local representative of the bank.

I have advised Mr. Monahan by telephone that this payment should be made, to the amount of three thousand dollars ($3000.) for the first seven designs, and I think you will have no trouble in obtaining payment from him.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Conant

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN
PRECIOUS STONES
DIAMONDS EMERALDS
RUBIES SAPPHIRES
PEARLS OPALS

JOS. K. DAVISON'S SONS
MANUFACTURING JEWELERS
718 SANSOM STREET
PHILADELPHIA

DESIGNERS AND MAKERS OF
RICH GOLD JEWELRY
MEDALS AND INSIGNIA

Mar. 9, 1915

SOLD TO Mr. Geo. Morgan

1 Die 26 mm			
1 " 20 "			
1 " 16.25 "			
1 " 12.30 "		$20 each	140 00
1 " 14.50 "			
1 " 13.09 "			
1 " 11.43 "			
1 Die Portrait head			20 00
			160 00

JOS. K. DAVISON'S SONS
MAR 18 1915
for M.

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

COMISION DE LA MONEDA NACIONAL

DR. LEOPOLDO CANCIO.
SECRETARIO DE HACIENDA.
CHARLES A. CONANT.
PERITO MONETARIO.
EDUARDO I. MONTOULIEU.
COMISIONADO TECNICO.

9730

Havana, March 11th, 1915.

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

I take pleasure in acknowledging receipt of your favor of the 4th inst.

I received the card impressions as well as the plaster cast of the model for the gold coin; all of which has met with my approval, and I hasten to say that the work is very satisfactory.

Yours truly,

Leopoldo Cancio

Secretario de Hacienda.

RC
EAE

REPUBLICA DE CUBA
SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA
11 MARZO 1915
REGISTRO GENERAL

REPÚBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

ASUNTO OFICIAL

~~Multa de $300 por uso particular.~~

HABANA, CUBA
MAR 11
8-PM
1915

REPUBLICA DE CUBA
SECRETARIA de HACIENDA
11. MARZO 1915
REGISTRO GENERAL

Charles E. Barber, Esquire,

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, Pa. -

BRANCHES:
84 GALIANO ST., HAVANA
226 Monte St. (Cuatro Caminos), Havana
Produce Exchange, Havana
Jesús del Monte 234, Habana
88 Muralla St., Habana
SANTIAGO
CIENFUEGOS
MATANZAS
CARDENAS
MANZANILLO
SAGUA LA GRANDE
PINAR DEL RIO
CAIBARIEN
GUANAJAY
ENCRUCIJADA
JOVELLANOS
REMEDIOS
GÜIRA DE MELENA

BANCO NACIONAL DE CUBA

NATIONAL BANK OF CUBA

CAPITAL $5,000,000.
GOVERNMENT DEPOSITARY
HEAD OFFICE: HAVANA

OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK AGENCY
(NO. 1 WALL ST.)

BRANCHES:
GUANTANAMO
SANTA CLARA
CAMAGÜEY
SANCTI SPIRITUS
CAMAJUANI
CRUCES
CIEGO DE AVILA
HOLGUIN
COLON
PLACETAS
SANTO DOMINGO
TRINIDAD
GÜINES
GIBARA
GUANABACOA

Cable Address: "BANCONAC"

NEW YORK April 24, 1915.

Mr. Chas. E. Barber,
C/o U. S. Mint,
Phila., Pa.

My dear Mr. Barber:-

In connection with the ten and twenty dollar gold pieces which you are now working on, I have received a letter from Mr. Merchant dated the 17th as follows:-

> "In regard to the last paragraph of said letter, when you next see the engraver please say to him that it is understood, according to Mr. Conant, that the price for making the ten and twenty dollar dies is $400.00 each, the same as for the five dollar. Please advise us if this understanding is correct."

Please let me hear from you about this and oblige,

Very truly yours,

J. J. Mahan

Manager.

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

COMISION DE LA MONEDA NACIONAL

DR. LEOPOLDO CANCIO
Secretario de Hacienda
CHARLES A. CONANT
Perito Monetario
EDUARDO I. MONTOULIEU
Comisionado Tecnico

Philadelphia, May 7th., 1915.

Dear Sir:-

Acting under authority from the Secretary of Finance, I beg to advise you that the ten and twenty dollar gold pieces, will have on the edge the following inscription:

" Con todos y para todos. "

Very truly yours,

E. I. Montoulieu

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Penn.

BRANCHES:
84 GALIANO ST., HAVANA
226 Monte St. (Cuatro Caminos), Havana
Produce Exchange, Havana
Jesús del Monte 234, Habana
88 Muralla St., Habana
SANTIAGO
CIENFUEGOS
MATANZAS
CARDENAS
MANZANILLO
SAGUA LA GRANDE
PINAR DEL RIO
CAIBARIEN
GUANAJAY
ENCRUCIJADA
JOVELLANOS
REMEDIOS
GÜIRA DE MELENA

BANCO NACIONAL DE CUBA

NATIONAL BANK OF CUBA

CAPITAL $ 5.000.000.
GOVERNMENT DEPOSITARY
HEAD OFFICE: HAVANA.

OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK AGENCY
(NO. 1 WALL ST.)

BRANCHES:
GUANTANAMO
SANTA CLARA
CAMAGÜEY
SANCTI SPIRITUS
CAMAJUANI
CRUCES
CIEGO DE AVILA
HOLGUIN
COLON
PLACETAS
SANTO DOMINGO
TRINIDAD
GÜINES
GIBARA
GUANABACOA

Cable Address: "BANCONAC"

NEW YORK May 14, 1915.

Charles E. Barber, Esq.
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

We herewith copy letter received today from our President, Mr. W. A. Merchant:-

"We refer to your letter of April 27th relative to cost of the Dies for the Ten and Twenty Dollar pieces, and in reply we have to say that you are authorized to pay $500.00 each for said Dies with their Hubs."

Very truly yours,

J. J. Monahan

Manager.

IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN
PRECIOUS STONES
DIAMONDS EMERALDS
RUBIES SAPPHIRES
PEARLS OPALS

JOS. K. DAVISON'S SONS INC.
MANUFACTURING JEWELERS
718 SANSOM STREET
PHILADELPHIA

DESIGNERS AND MAKERS OF
RICH GOLD JEWELRY
MEDALS AND INSIGNIA

June 1, 1915

SOLD TO Mr. G. T. Morgan

Apr.	24	Die Cuban coin	20 00
	30	1 Die 23.50	25 00
May	5	1 Cuban coin die	20 00
	4	2 Cuban dies hardened	1 50
			66 50

JOS. K. DAVISON'S SONS, Inc.
PAID
JUN 1 1915
per M.

Please return receipted bill
to Chas E. Barber
U. S. Mint

BRANCHES:
84 GALIANO ST., HAVANA
226 Monte St., (Cuatro Caminos), Havana
Produce Exchange, Havana
Jesús del Monte 234, Habana
88 Muralla St., Habana
SANTIAGO
CIENFUEGOS
MATANZAS
CARDENAS
MANZANILLO
SAGUA LA GRANDE
PINAR DEL RIO
CAIBARIEN
GUANAJAY
ENCRUCIJADA
JOVELLANOS
REMEDIOS
GÜIRA DE MELENA

BANCO NACIONAL DE CUBA

NATIONAL BANK OF CUBA

CAPITAL $5,000,000
GOVERNMENT DEPOSITARY
HEAD OFFICE: HAVANA.

OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK AGENCY
(NO. 1 WALL ST.)

BRANCHES:
GUANTANAMO
SANTA CLARA
CAMAGÜEY
SANCTI SPIRITUS
CAMAJUANI
CRUCES
CIEGO DE AVILA
HOLGUIN
COLON
PLACETAS
SANTO DOMINGO
TRINIDAD
GÜINES
GIBARA
GUANABACOA

Cable Address: "BANCONAC"

NEW YORK June 7,1915

Mr. Chas. E. Barber,

c/o U.S.Mint,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

For your guidance, please take note of the following letter that we have received from our President, Mr.W.A.Merchant:

"Havana,Cuba June 1,1915

"Please give the order for making the HUBS and DIES for the gold pieces of One, Two and Four dollar denomina tions, cost of each to be $400.00. "

We believe that you have already proceeded with this work and this is merely the formal confirmation of the order.

Very truly yours,

W. Merchant

M. Manager.

The Secretary having approved the $20 & $10 pieces, I have pleasure in to inform you to forward your claim for this work.

As you see the sizes of the $1.00, $2.00, and $4.00 pieces have also been approved, and if you wish so, you may now proceed with the work for these denominations, which I understood you to say you would also

when I told you I would have to wait for the approval of Dr. Cancio's before ordering payment on the $20 & $10 dies.

Very sincerely yours,

E. Montoulieu

REPUBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

COMISION DE LA MONEDA NACIONAL

DR. LEOPOLDO CANCIO,
SECRETARIO DE HACIENDA.
CHARLES A. CONANT,
PERITO MONETARIO.
EDUARDO I. MONTOULIEU,
COMISIONADO TECNICO.

Havana, June 28th, 1915.

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, Pa.

My Dear Mr. Barber:-

On Saturday I addressed to Mr. Montoulieu a cable which appears below. Being advised by the Western Union Telegraph Co. that it could not be delivered owing to the absence of Mr. Montoulieu, I had the cable to-day sent directly to you. It should read as follows:

"Barber. Federal Mint. Philadelphia.
New letter on rim tens and twenties acceptable and dies may be completed. Size gold planchets acceptable. Work may proceed. - Cancio."

I have also sent directly to you, by registered mail, the designs for the pieces for $10 and 20 and the planchets for the smaller gold pieces. I could hardly believe that Mr. Montoulieu failed to leave any address with Mr. Joyce or yourself, but as the cable was probably presented on Sunday at the Mint, I assume that the statement in regard to the address came from the door keepers. I have sent a letter to Mr. Montoulieu, which I hope you will be able to forward to his vacation address.

Please be kind enough to advise me of the receipt of the planchets and also to forward Mr. Montoulieu's letter.

Yours very sincerely,

Charles A. Conant

CRAIG HALL
CRAIG HALL & CRAIGHEAD
ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.

June 28 '15

Mr. Chas. E. Barber,
U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

Dear Mr. Barber:

I have just had a cable from Havana reading as follows:

"New lettering on Rim tens and fives acceptable and dies may be completed. Size gold planchets acceptable, work may proceed."

Cancio -

REPÚBLICA DE CUBA

SECRETARIA DE HACIENDA

Ordering other dies for Gold July 2nd 1915

HABANA, CUBA
JUN 28
1 30 PM
1915

ASUNTO OFICIAL.

Multa de $300 por uso particular.

R

Charles T. Barber, Esquire,

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia,

Phila July 27th 1915

Agreed to change the diameters for the 1. 2. and 5 Centavos Coins for $400

C. E. B.

REPUBLIC OF CUBA
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
COMMISSION ON NATIONAL MONEY

DR. LEOPOLDO CANCIO
SECRETARY OF FINANCE
CHARLES A. CONANT
MONETARY ADVISOR
EDUARDO I. MONTOULIEU
TECHNICAL EXPERT

Philadelphia, August 9,1915.

Mr. Charles E. Barber,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

Acting under authority from the Secretary of Finance I beg to say that your charge for the proposed changes in the nickel coins as per your favor of the 27th of July, is satisfactory, and you are hereby requested to proceed to the preparation of the new dies.

Very sincerely yours

E. I. Montoulieu

MONTHLY STATEMENT

Sept. 1, 1915

Mr. C. E. Barber DR. TO

Jos. K. Davison's Sons, Inc.
MANUFACTURING JEWELERS
718 SANSOM STREET
PHILADELPHIA

Balance	120	00

JOS. K. DAVISON'S SONS, Inc.
PAID
OCT 26 1915
For

EDUARDO L. MONTOULIEU
INGENIERO
DE MINAS Y METALURGIA
MIEMBRO A. I. M. M.

For Gold Coins:

Legends for other coins

Diez Pesos
Cinco "
Cuatro "
Dos "
Un "

Weight: same as American Coins.

E. Montoulieu

Gold Cinco Pesos

Weight and fineness same as American Five Dollar

Diameter $21\frac{20}{30}$ mm.

same as U.S. Five Dollar

2 | 33.436 G.
16.718

Gold Cinco Pesos

Weight and fineness same as American Five Dollar

Diameter $21\frac{19}{30}$ mm

same as U.S. Five Dollar

2 | 33436 G.
16.718

EDUARDO E. MONTOULIEU
INGENIERO
DE MINAS Y METALURGIA
INGENIERO A. I. M. E.

For Silver Coins:

Two-Fifth of a Peso Coins _ Weight = 10 Gms. Legend: Cuarenta Cts.
One-fifth of a Peso Coins _ _ " _ = 5 Gms. _ " _ Veinte Centavos
One-tenth of a Peso Coins _ _ " _ = 2½ Gms. _ " _ Diez Centavos

For Nickel Coins:

Two-hundredths of a peso coins
Weight: 3.5 G. Legend: Dos Centavos
One-hundredths of a peso coins
Weight: 2.5 G. Legend: Un Centavo.

E. Montoulieu